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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Naoki Soeda

Serial No.: 09/502,454

Group Art Unit: 2652

Filed: February 11, 2000

Examiner: Chen, Tianjie

For: MAGNETIC DISK APPARATUS WITH SEPARATE PRINTED-CIRCUIT BOARDS

Honorable Commissioner of Patents

Alexandria, VA 22313 - 1450

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JUL 16 2004

Technology Center 2600

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated April 13, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Claims 1, 3, 5-10, 12, and 14-17 are all the claims presently pending in the application.

Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly define the invention and claim 2 has been canceled.

Claims 14-17 have been withdrawn from prosecution. Claims 1 and 16-17 are independent.